

Message Text

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SUBJECT: UN FIFTH COMMITTEE: SUMMARY OF 45TH MEETING,
DECEMBER 9, 1976

1. SUMMARY: AT EVENING MEETING DECEMBER 9, FIFTH COMMITTEE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON ITEM 98, PATTERN OF CONFERENCES, ITEM 92, FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON DECADE AGAINST RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, AND ITEM 92, ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN REGULAR BUDGET AND FUND OF UNEP. THE ITEM ON REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR UNCTAD WAS BEGUN AND A DRAFT RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATUTE FOR THE JIU WAS INTRODUCED. END SUMMARY.

2. ITEM 98 - PATTERN OF CONFERENCES. USSR (KRUMIN) WITHDREW ITS AMENDMENT ON ALTERNATING MEETINGS OF OUTER SPACE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND GENEVA, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES WOULD DISCUSS THE SUBJECT FURTHER. INDIA (IYER) ANNOUNCED THAT IT DID NOT WISH TO TABLE AN AMENDMENT ON FUNDING OF MEETINGS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. AFTER THE CHAIRMAN EXPLAINED THAT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH TWO OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON CONFERENCES HAD TO BE ADJUSTED FOR CALENDAR CHANGES, IT WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS. CHAPTER EIGHT, SECTION G OF THE ECOSOC REPORT REVIEW OF
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CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES WAS NOTED BY THE COMMITTEE,

ALSO BY CONSENSUS.

3. ITEM 92 - PROGRAM BUDGET(A/31/273) - FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON DECADE AGAINST RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. - CHAIRMAN OF THE ACABQ MSELLE PRESENTED ACABQ REPORT (A/31/8/ADD.13), WHICH NOTED THAT EXPENSES OF ACCRA CONFERENCE PAYABLE BY UN WOULD BE IN 1978-79 BUDGET, THAT ONLY \$3,800 FOR TWO PREPARATORY TRIPS NEED BE PAID OUT OF PRESENT BUDGET, AND THAT NO SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS NEEDED FOR THIS PURPOSE; HENCE RESOLUTION HAD NO FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. ISRAEL (LADOR) SAID IT PROPOSED THE RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF LINK TO NOVEMBER 1975 ZIONISM-RACISM RESOLUTION; IT THEREFORE OPPOSED ANY UN FUNDS FOR DECADE. EGYPT (ABOUL-GHEIT) EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD MAKE APPROPRIATE BUDGETARY PROVISIONS TO INCLUDE ARABIC AS ONE OF THE WORKING LANGUAGES OF THE ACCRA CONFERENCE; IT WAS CONSULTING WITH THE OTHER DELS ABOUT POSSIBLE PROPOSAL TO THIS END. US (NORBURY) AFTER FIRST REITERATING ITS NON-PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DECADE, EXPLAINED ITS OPPOSITION TO THE USE OF REGULAR UN BUDGET FUNDS FOR THE ADDED COSTS OF MEETINGS AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS. COMMITTEE APPROVED ACABQ REPORT WITHOUT OBJECTION. NETHERLANDS (RHODIUS) SAID IF THERE HAD BEEN A VOTE EC-9 WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED BOTH BECAUSE OF SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTIONS TO RES AND BECAUSE OF MISGIVINGS ABOUT EXCEPTIONS TO RULE ON PAYMENT FOR MEETINGS AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS. NEW ZEALAND (TROTTER) SAID IT WOULD HAVE VOTED IN FAVOR BUT BELIEVED ACCRA MEETING SHOULD NOT SET ANY KIND OF PRECEDENT ON PAYMENT FOR MEETINGS AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS. ALGERIA (BOUAYAD-AGHA) AND GHANA (SEKYI) SAID THEY WOULD HAVE VOTED YES; GHANA SAID IT WAS NOT UNREASONABLE THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD EXTEND FINANCIAL AID IN THIS AREA.

4. ITEM 92 - REVISED UNCTAD ESTIMATES (A/C.5.31/49). - USUAL INTRODUCTION OF ACABQ REPORT WAS OMITTED. USSR SAID THAT IT OPPOSED ALL ADD-ONS, AND WOULD THEREFORE OPPOSE REQUEST FOR FUNDS PARTICULARLY SINCE NO JUSTIFICATION HAD BEEN GIVEN.

5. ITEM 92 - ESTABLISHMENT OF A RATIONALE FOR THE ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN THE REGULAR BUDGET AND THE FUND OF UNEP
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(A/C.5/31/39-CORR. 1 AND 2). - ALGERIA AND BELGIUM SUPPORTED ACABQ REPORT, AS DID THE NETHERLANDS WHICH CAUTIONED THAT THE FUND NOT BE BURDENED TOO MUCH WITH WHAT SHOULD COME FROM THE REGULAR BUDGET. FRANCE (DERRE) STATED THAT THERE WAS NO NEED TO FINANCE MORE STAFF UNDER THE REGULAR BUDGET SINCE UNEP HAD NO OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES. KENYA SUPPORTED ACABQ AND FLEXIBILITY IT ALLOWED TO UNEP EXEC DIR. COMMITTEE BY CONSENSUS TOOK NOTE OF THE SYG REPORT AND CONCURRED IN

THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACABQ.

6. ITEM 97 - JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (A/C.5/31/78).-AMBASSADOR MAJOLI OF ITALY EXPLAINED THE DRAFT JIU STATUTE WHICH HIS WORKING GROUP COMMITTEE HAD PRODUCED, CITING AS THE MOST DIFFICULT POINT THE MATTER OF THE JIU'S PARTICIPATION IN THE BUDGET PROCESS. BALANCE HAD BEEN STRUCK IN ARTICLE 20 BETWEEN NEED TO PRESERVE UNITY OF UN BUDGET AND ITS CONTROL BY ACABQ AND THE NEED FOR GIVING JIU SOME AUTONOMY. GHANA (SEKYI) INTRODUCED AN EIGHT-NATION DRAFT RES PROPOSING THE TEXT OF THE STATUTE; POINTED OUT THAT STATUTE PROVIDED FOR "REASONABLE ROTATION" OF INSPECTORS, SAID THIS WAS IMPORTANT SINCE TIME HAD COME FOR OTHER COUNTRIES GRADUALLY TO BEGIN TO PARTICIPATE BY PROVIDING INSPECTORS. BELGIUM AND AUSTRALIA SUPPORTED RES, HOPED FOR CONSENSUS. ACABQ CHAIRMAN MSELLE ASKED CO-SPONSORS TO CLARIFY AT NEXT MEETING SOME ASPECTS OF ARTICLE 20 OF THE PROPOSED STATUTE. DOES IT SEEK TO AMEND ARTICLE 3.1 OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS? WILL ACABQ SUBMIT SEPARATE REPORT ON JIU BUDGET OR INCLUDE THIS IN ITS OVERALL REPORT ON BUDGET? MAY ACABQ MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS? WHY DOES PARA 2 OF ARTICLE 20 REFER TO "BUDGET" RATHER THAN "EXPENDITURES"? MSELLE NOTED THAT ARTICLE 20 ALMOST IDENTICAL WITH US PROPOSAL AND THOUGHT US MIGHT OFFER CLARIFICATION. BRAZIL (OLIVEIRA ARAUJO) REFERRING TO JIU REPORT 76/3 ON UN TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN LATIN AMERICA, SAID THE JIU HAD OVERSTEPPED ITS MANDATE AND IMPINGED UPON THE EXCLUSIVE PREROGATIVES OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS.

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